

REMARKS

In response to the final Official Action of October 6, 2005, claim 53 has been amended in a manner which is believed to distinguish the claimed invention over the cited art. In addition, the withdrawn claims have been cancelled.

Applicant's attorney would like to thank Examiner Tran for her helpful comments made during a telephonic interview with the undersigned attorney on December 15, 2005. At that time, the proposed, amended language with regard to claim 53 was discussed with Examiner Tran who indicated that the amendatory language would probably distinguish the claimed invention over Nakajima cited at paragraph 2 of the final Official Action. Examiner Tran also requested that the Amendment After Final be submitted with a Request for Continued Examination since the amendatory language would raise new issues which would require further examination. This amendment is filed with a Request for Continued Examination.

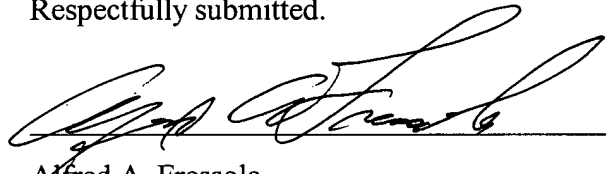
Referring further to paragraph 2 of the Official Action, it is therefore respectfully submitted that claims 53, 57, 58 and 59 are not anticipated by Nakajima. Although Nakajima does disclose lines, such as at least a portion of conductive layer (8) which, as set forth in the final Official Action, are separately and completely formed within the grooves (25), it is clear from a review of the recited portions of Nakajima, as well as the recited Figures 4 and 13, that the portion of the conductive layer (8) shown in Nakajima does not show separate conductive lines where each conductive line is formed entirely within one of the grooves, but rather the conductive layer (8) shown in Nakajima, including Figure 13 thereof, extends beyond the grooves and over a portion of the front surface layer (7). Therefore, claim 53 is believed to be not anticipated by Nakajima.

Furthermore, claims 57, 58 and 59 all depend from claim 53 and therefore are further distinguished over Nakajima.

Referring to paragraph 4 of the final Official Action, claims 54-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Nakajima, further in view of US patent 6,031,729, Berkely et al (hereinafter Berkely). Since claims 54-56 all depend from claim 53, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also not unpatentable over Nakajima in view of Berkely due to their dependency from a claim which is distinguished over the art.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the present application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alfred A. Fressola', is written over a horizontal line.

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